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LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF WAR,

TRANSMITTING

INFORMATION RESPECTING THE ADJUSTMENT AND PAYMENT

OF

THE CLAIMS OF THE FRIENDLY CREEK INDIANS,

UNDER

THE TREATY OF THE 9th AUGUST, 1814.

JANUARY 18, 1819.

Read, and ordered to lie upon the table.

WASHINGTON CITY:

PRINTED BY E. DE KRAFFT.

1819.

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DEPARTMENT OF WAR,
16th January, 1819.

SIR,

In compliance with the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 4th instant, directing the Secretary of War "to lay before the House such information as he may possess, respecting the adjustment of the claims of the friendly Creek Indians, made in considerationof their treaty with the United States, of August the 9th, 1814," I have the honor to transmit a copy of a letter addressed by general D. B. Mitchell, agent to the Creek Indians, to this Department; accompanied by a statement of the sums paid by him, to satisfy the claims of the friendly Creek Indians, for the property destroyed by the hostile Creek Indians, during the war which was terminated by the treaty of the 9th of August, 1814; and an extract of a letter, addressed by the War Department to general Mitchell; which contain all the information in possession of the department, on that subject.

I have the honor to be,

Your most obedient servant,

J. C. CALHOUN.

The honorable the Speaker
of the House of Representatives.

(Copy.)

Creek Agency, 18*th March*, 1818.

SIR,

I have now the honor to enclose a concise statement of the accounts presented by the friendly Indians, for losses during the late war, and of the application of the sum appropriated by Congress for their payment; by which it appears, that a little upwards of one hundred thousand dollars is still due.

The gross amount of claims presented, including the abstract made by colonel Hawkins, is very little over or under three hundred thousand dollars; but they were reduced by the chieifs to one hundred and ninety-five thousand four hundred and seventeen dollars and ninety cents. A general abstract of the whole will be forwarded as soon as completed.

Eighty-three thousand dollars of the amount appropriated, having been remitted in draughts upon the United States' Bank in Philadelphia, I went to Savannah, and presented them to the officers of the branch of that bank established there; but they refused to take them up. I then returned, and consulted the chiefs, and they agreed to allow two and a half per cent. that being the lowest rate of exchange between Philadelphia and Savannah, or Augusta, at that time, rather than be delayed, or risk the conveyance of so large a sum by an agent. The remaining two thousand dollars was paid to M'Intosh, in Washington.

I am yours, &c.

D. B. MITCHELL,
Agent for Indian Affairs.

Honorable J. C. Calhoun,
Secretary of War.

(Copy.)

STATEMENT of Claims for losses by the friendly Creek Indians, during the late war, as liquidated and settled by the Chiefs, in council, at Fort Hawkins, in July, 1817, and at the Agency, in January, 1818: Also, showing the sums paid, and balance due.

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1st.	Amount liquidated for Upper Towns, at Fort Hawkins, in July, 1817 -	77,572 50	
	Deduct this amount, paid at the same time - - - - - - -	31,029	
			46,543 50
2d.	Amount liquidated for Lower Towns, at Fort Hawkins, in July, 1817 -	29,775	
	Deduct this amount, paid at the same time - - - - - - -	11,910	
			17,865
3d.	Miscellaneous claims, liquidated at Fort Hawkins, in July, 1817 - -	27,157	
	Deduct this amount, paid to these claims - - - - - - - -	10,862	
			16,295
4th.	Amount liquidated at the Agency, in January, 1818 - - - - - -	49,524	
	Deduct this amount, paid to these claims - - - - - - - -	19,809 60	
			29,714 40
	Whole balance due - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		$110,417 90

RECAPITULATION,

Showing the application of the sum appropriated.

Paid to Upper Creeks, in July, 1817 - - -		$31,029 00
Paid to Lower Creeks, in July, 1817 - - -		11,910 00
Paid to miscellaneous claims - - - - -		10,862 00
Paid at Agency, in January, 1818 - - - -		19,809 60
		73,610 60
Paid major Hughes, by special order of the chiefs,	$3,400	
Paid two and a half per cent. discount on sale of bills for 83,000 dollars - - -	2,075*	
Received by M'Intosh at Washington - -	2,000	
		7,475 00
Amount - - - - - - - - -		$81,085 60
†This balance placed in the hands of the two principal chiefs, by general consent, to be applied to some cases of peculiar hardship, otherwise unprovided for - - -		3,914 40

* 83,000 dollars of the money having been remitted in draughts upon the United States' bank in Philadelphia, and the branch of that bank in Savannah refusing to pay them, this charge arose from the difference of exchange between Savannah and Augusta, and Philadelphia, at that time; and has been allowed by the chiefs, rather than be delayed, or run the risk of conveyance by an agent.

† When the first payments were made, it was necessary, as the claims were not all received at that time, and the amount was much greater than the sum appropriated, to adopt some rule of proportion in making the payment. Two-fifths was finally determined upon; and this sum is the balance, after paying two-fifths of the whole claims liquidated. And, as some cases have occurred which merit attention, but were excluded in consequence of the limitation, this amount has been set apart to relieve them, by general consent.

(Signed) D. B. MITCHELL,
Agent for Indian Affairs.

Creek Agency,
18*th March*, 1818.

Extract of a letter from George Graham, Esq. acting Secretary of War, to David B. Mitchell, Esq. dated

WAR DEPARTMENT, 20th March, 1817.

"Two thousand dollars of the amount appropriated, have been paid to Major M'Intosh, in part of his claim for losses; and the balance (83,000) will be remitted to you by the Treasurer."

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